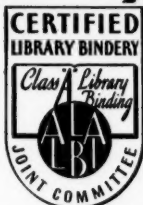


The Library Binder

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From Our New President

No man can stand alone. That fact seems to be the underlying characteristic of our age. Each of us is a member of an organization of which we are only one small part. This is true whether we are the head of a large company or a clerical worker at a machine. Our entire life is a part of group activity.

As business men one of our most important activities relates to our membership in a trade association. Most all American business men belong to one or more of such organizations. The reasons are simple: no man can solve his problems in a vacuum—he needs the help and stimulation of other men like himself.

To me as President of L.B.I., one of the great purposes for which we exist is to provide a forum for the discussion of industry problems where every binder can freely exchange ideas on techniques, materials, and matters of concern to every processor.

Similarly, L.B.I. brings together the customers whom we serve, the librarians of America, so that by joint discussions of librarians and binders continuous progress is assured in the science of conservation.

For conservation is a science. Whether it be in the development of a system in the library for rebinding, or in the efficient processing of volumes in the binders plant.

As new President of L.B.I., I want to continue the progress made by President Bernard J. Schaefer. I particularly want to see carried forward the use of L.B.I. as a forum for discussion of problems of concern to binders and librarians. By common action each of us can have the strength of all of us.

GEORGE T. VONDERHAAR



L.B.I.'s 1954 Convention

The 18th Annual Convention and Joint Session of Librarians and Binders was held on April 7-9, 1954, at the Hotel Statler in Washington. Attended by over 200 librarians and 50 binders it has been acclaimed as one of the most productive and stimulating series of meetings of its kind yet held.

The convention opened on Wednesday, April 7, with a luncheon meeting of associate and certified members. Suppliers discussed new products and supplies available to binders. Mr. Zimmer, of Gane Brothers and Lane, described a new machine called a Staple Buster for use by library binders which is more fully described in another article. Arthur Crawley, of Crawley Manufacturing Company, discussed several of the machines which his concern offers to binders. He also emphasized the continuous research his firm is engaged in to increase efficiency and productivity, while reducing binding costs, and the many facilities, including a private airplane, which his company has to serve the industry. Mr. R. P. True, of Special Fabrics, was present. His concern is a manufacturer of the materials used for covers. Mr. W. A. Dodd and S. A. Madden, of Davey board, manufacturers of a special quality of boards developed for library binding use, attended, as did Mr. Charles Flood, of Gane Brothers & Lane. A general discussion was held on areas of research for materials and methods.

The next session was a meeting of the Joint Committee of A.L.A. and L.B.I. Mr. Alfred B. Lindsay, Associate Librarian, Washington Square Library, New York University, Chairman, presided. Present were William Weitzel and Charles Flanigan, library members; J. Howard Atkins, Lawrence Sibert, Oscar Schnabel and Bernard J. Schaefer, L.B.I. members. Miss Julia Bennett, A.L.A. Washington representative, was a guest. The Joint Committee discussed the prize contest, the report of the sub-committee on Simplified Prac-

tices, the report of the sub-committee on a supplement to the Manual, Fair Trades Practice Regulation, the status of the proceedings to make the Minimum Specifications into a commercial standard, the results of the Survey on conservation practices (described in another article in this issue of the LIBRARY BINDER), and the future status of the Joint Committee.

The librarian members voted to certify prior certified members on affidavit that they can produce Class A work. A meeting is planned at the next Regional meeting of L.B.I.

On Thursday more than 250 librarians and binders from as far west as the States of Washington and California crowded the South American Room for the Joint Session which, this year, was devoted to a Workshop on conservation problems.

Bernard J. Schaefer, President of L.B.I., introduced Mr. L. Quincy Mumford, President-elect of A.L.A. and moderator of the Session. Mr. Mumford opened the discussion with a very stimulating talk in which he pointed out that a realistic approach is necessary on the effect of increased costs on libraries' budgets. He pointed out that this factor has put a tremendous strain on conservation practices and called for a study of all methods of conservation including use of binding not meeting the minimum specifications of A.L.A. and L.B.I. These must be developed in order to meet the varying needs of librarians.

His remarks were later commented on in answers to questions by Mr. Dudley A. Weiss of L.B.I. who stated that for most purposes, the specifications set a standard to be followed, but when librarians have individual problems, by close cooperation with his binder, satisfactory solutions could be devised.

Mr. Scott Adams discussed problems of periodicals such as whether to defer the time of binding until maximum use is over, the incidence of loss in unbound issues, problems of missing issues, binding in other than annual issues. Miss Gretchen Little, President of S.L.A., discussed problems of special libraries, particularly problems in connection with conservation of reports, utilization of space and problems of a special collection. Eugene Willging discussed conservation problems of basic materials at Catholic University, explaining the program of doing some work in the university by hand-binding and sending out other work. He described the many different types of material handled by a pontifical university and the diversity of treatment in connection with conservation. He emphasized preservation as opposed to artistry.

Mr. George P. Moreland discussed the plight of a library with an inadequate budget pointing out that he has 160 boxes ready for a binder but no funds this year. He discussed methods of increasing circulations, the longevity of books bound according to Class A specifications, the need for more factual information as to what books can be rebound

and the speed of rebinding. A question period followed in which Messrs. J. Howard Atkins, Christian W. Gross, Charles W. Pickard and Lawrence D. Sibert binders, and Paul Howard, answered questions submitted by librarians.

A luncheon followed in which Mr. Verner W. Clapp, Chief Assistant Librarian, Library of Congress, welcomed librarians and binders to Washington. Mr. Clapp discussed the ink lifting process developed by W. J. Barrow of Virginia State Library.

Mr. Bernard J. Schaefer introduced Miss Frances Kennedy of Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, winner of the prize contest, who read her paper "How Our Library's Book Conservation Program has Benefited from the Use of Class A Library Binding Specifications."

The afternoon session was highlighted by a talk on the new Fair Trade Practices Regulation for the Library Binding industry by Hon. James M. Mead of the Federal Trade Commission. Col. Willard Webb, Chief of the Stack and Reader Division, Library of Congress, discussed the problems in connection with conservation at the Library of Congress, emphasizing the tremendous difficulties because of the volume of material received.

Mr. Melvin B. Summerfield, of L.B.I., showed color slides of binding operations, after which the meeting adjourned.

Friday's session was devoted to binders' problems. The morning session was devoted to a discussion of the new Fair Trade Practices Regulation by David R. Stauffer, attorney for the Federal Trade Commission and Dudley A. Weiss, General Counsel for L.B.I. Mr. Donald A. Hipkins, Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, delivered an address on the functions of his agency, the importance of small business and the various measures, responsibility for which Congress had vested in his agency.

Friday afternoon was devoted to a discussion of technical and business problems.

Although over 90% of all books rebound are done in conformity with the minimum specifications for Class A binding of A.L.A. and L.B.I., a discussion of substitutes indicated that cost savings by using cheaper materials are illusory. Labor costs total about 47.5 of the sales dollar and material about 18%. Use of cheaper material results in the overall saving being out of proportion to the cheaper quality. By eliminating some operations which are expensive laborwise savings might be effected. Some of these are lettering, rounding and backing, and collating. However, no two libraries agree on which operations can be eliminated, and interrupting production lines for such purposes actually may increase costs. It was agreed that the use of the minimum specifications was the best policy for sound economic coverings, and dilution of the specifications would be a retreat in the direction of the poor workman-

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ship and low standards which prevailed prior to the adoption of the specifications.

After the various L.B.I. programs were reviewed, Charles W. Pickard, Chairman of the Nominating Committee announced the slate of officers who were elected unanimously and sworn in.

The meeting adjourned after selection of Memphis as the site of the 1955 Convention.

The annual banquet Tuesday night was highlighted by the presentation of a gavel by the retiring President, Bernard J. Schaefer to the new President George T. Vonder Haar. Mr. Gerard Van Deene, on behalf of L.B.I., presented Citations to the retiring officers for the services to their industry and the library profession. Group singing led by an accordionist wound up the Convention.

D. A. W.

Winners of L.B.I.'s Prize Contest

1ST PRIZE: Miss Frances Kennedy, Librarian, Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

2ND PRIZE: Mr. Dillard S. Gardner, Librarian, Supreme Court Library, Raleigh, North Carolina.

3RD PRIZE: Miss Elizabeth C. Welborn, Lander College Library, Lander College, Greenwood, South Carolina.

HONORABLE MENTION: Mr. John Hall Jacobs, New Orleans Public Library, New Orleans, Louisiana.

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Georgian Named "Mother of Year"

A sixty-five-year old Columbus, Ga., mother of five sons, a librarian and one of the few women ever to serve in the Georgia Legislature, was selected as "American Mother of the Year" by the American Mothers Committee of the Golden Rule Foundation, 60 E. 42d St.



Selected by the committee from among nominees throughout the United States and its territories, the qualifications of Mrs. Love McDuffie Tolbert were termed "outstanding" by the committee. She was honored at the annual awards luncheon of the committee at the Waldorf-Astoria May 7.

Mrs. Tolbert now serves in the Johnson School Library in Muscogee County School District. The Golden Rule Foundation was founded in 1929 as an organization for "constructive philanthropy."

LIBRARY BINDING INDUSTRY STATISTICS

In an effort to help library binders know more about their industry L.B.I. last year started to compile industry statistics as to operating statements. The table below shows a comparison of averages for library binders in different volume classifications. All binders, whether or not members of L.B.I. are invited to submit information for compilation of such statistics. Forms will be sent upon request. All replies are anonymous. For information write Library Binding Institute, 501 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

INDUSTRY AVERAGE OPERATING STATEMENTS

Item	A firms		B firms	
	1952	1953	1952	1953
1. Total Sales	100%	100%	100%	100%
2. Factory Labor	47.24	47.72	48.02	47.2
3. Factory Overhead	9.20	8.89	8.57	8.1
4. Inventory Used	20.73	19.71	17.19	17.5
5. Gross Profit on Sales	22.77	27.17	26.43	27.0
6. Selling and Admin. Expense	15.14	16.26	14.00	17.7
7. Charges against income	3.06	5.25	3.36	3.1
8. Net profit (before Fed. taxes)	4.44	3.09	8.39	6.5

A firms: Annual volume over \$150,000 per year

B firms: Annual volume \$50,000-\$150,000 per year.

CANDID SHOTS FROM THE CONVENTION



A. Oscar Schnabel and Gerard B. Van Deene; B. Fred James, Charles J. Flunigan, William Metsch C. Gerard B. Van Deene, George T. Vonder Haar; D. Mr. & Mrs. R. P. True; E. Mr. & Mrs. Dudley A. Weiss; F. Mr. & Mrs. Bernard J. Schaefer; G. Mr. & Mrs. Bernard J. Schaefer and Mrs. M. B. Summerfield; H. Mrs. George T. Vonder Haar and Edith Barr; I. Mr. & Mrs. L. Quincy Mumford; J. Mr. Bernard J. Schaefer and Mr. George T. Vonder Haar; K. Mr. Lawrence D. Sibert and Mr. Robert Sibert; L. Mrs. Franklin R. Brown and Miss Marilyn Brown; M. Mr. & Mrs. George T. Vonder Haar; N. Mr. J. V. Ruzicka, Jr. and Mrs. C. W. Gross; O. Mr. Gerard B. Van Deene and Mrs. August Alpers; P. Mr. & Mrs. Robert T. Motter, Jr.; Q. Mr. & Mrs. Zack G. Haygood

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Head Table at Joint Session Luncheon, April 8, 1954

Left to right: Gerard B. Van Deene, Col. Willard Webb, L. Quincy Mumford, Miss Julia Ben-
nett, Vernor W. Clapp, Bernard J. Schaefer, Dudley A. Weiss, Miss Frances Kennedy, Melvin
B. Summerfield and David R. Stauffer. In the lower right corner, J. Howard Atkins.

How Our Library's Book Conservation Program Has Benefited from the Use of Class "A" Library Binding Specifications *

by MISS FRANCES KENNEDY, Oklahoma City University

Since no library budget is elastic and the majority are inadequate, conservation is a word often on the lips and always in the thinking of librarians. The library without a definite program of conservation of printed materials is as outmoded as the Model T, and as incongruous. We are out of step if our card catalogs reflect the most advanced thinking on myriad subjects, and our shelves belie their presence by their shabby and dilapidated appearance.

As librarians, books and service are our only commodities, and one without the other is not feasible. We are not noted as super salesmen, but salesmen we must be if we make any pretense of approaching our own goals. By their very establishment we have obligated ourselves. "United Through Books," "Reading is Fun," "Books are Basic," — all good themes, but will the people we are trying to reach be induced to read a volume whose cover is soiled and whose pages are loose or missing? We doubt it!

Modern packaging has educated us to the realization that an attractive package has the eye appeal which creates or increases sales. What better example than our library shelves with their stock of inspirational, recreational, and educational packages, but their sales appeal is dependent upon their packaging, too. Our shelves reflect our conservation program — or lack of it.

A volume bound or rebound according to the minimum specifications for Grade "A" library binding meets, and often surpasses in eye appeal, the volume just received from the book dealer. But durability and the qualities which make for long wear have not been sacrificed; rather are they assured by these specifications. The longevity of Grade "A" binding, both in appearance and durability, has been proven many times over. These are the requisites which make such binding a necessity to libraries, but especially one such as ours with a limited book budget. "One copy each" appears almost without exception on our book orders, and that one copy



must be kept attractive and useable for the length of its content value.

Book selection in a small library assumes greater importance than in the library with less limited funds. Each book must be carefully selected for its content, and its value to a library of this size usually outlives the publisher's binding in which it is purchased. A conservation program of rebinding gives this volume a new lease on life, and is worth the investment only if Grade "A" binding is specified. A poorly bound volume is a poor investment in libraries of any size or budgetary condition, but especially so in libraries where investments, whether in books or mechanical equipment, must be thoughtfully weighed.

Our professional training has not equipped us as binding experts, not even to the extent that we can always detect flaws in workmanship until the binding deteriorates with use. Then the difference in quality becomes apparent, even to the novice, and the expediency and efficiency of insisting upon fine craftsmanship is readily acknowledged. Since we are not experts, it would be both impossible and impracticable for each of us to write specifications for binding. Fortunately, in the library world of today, it is unnecessary. It has been done for us by our professional colleagues who are experts.

The establishment of the Joint Committee of the American Library Association and the Library Binding Institute resolved the specification problem for us. This committee represents a partnership, organized in the best interests of libraries and binders — all libraries, but only those binders with the craftsmanship and integrity to produce consistently good binding. The formulation of Grade "A" specifications gave librarians an insurance policy on workmanship uniform in quality, and that quality suited to our purposes. It is no longer necessary that we have the "know how" of binding; it is our responsibility that we have the "know when," and the intelligence to make use, of the sound foundations which have been laid for us by the Joint Committee.

To "know when" and "know what" are important features in a conservation program. This has been solved in our library by a careful examination of each book as it is returned, before it again reaches the shelves. Extensive mending of a volume, often making it unfit for

later rebinding, is unwise unless the temporary value of a book has been established. A member of the professional staff must make this decision, one familiar with the collection and the value of a particular title to that collection. With the "know when" and "know what" of the librarian, the "know how" of a binder certified by the L.B.I., and the minimum specifications for Grade "A" binding established by the Joint Committee, the upkeep of any collection becomes much more of a routine matter than it was prior to 1934.

No one had to light a fire under us to make us realize how important our conservation program was. But a fire did give added emphasis to the essential role of the certified library binder in this program.

In the early hours of a chilly day two years ago, fire partially destroyed our library. The hours of smoldering before detection, the intense heat, and the permeating smoke caused considerable damage. Three telephone calls were made that morning as soon as possible: the first to the fire department, the second to our insurance agent, and the third? A long distance call to our LIBRARY BINDER! The first put out the fire, the second made funds available to start rebuilding, and the third—encouragement, sound advice, and explicit instructions for salvaging our damaged collection.

Books were rather facetiously classified as suffering first, second, third, or fourth degree burns—we needed a touch of humor in those days. First degree burns were suffered by books damaged by smoke; these were cleaned, remarked, and put back into circulation. Fourth degree burns were fatal to those unfortunate volumes burned beyond salvaging or recognition, and identified only by the process of an inventory.

All others were classified as suffering from second and third degree burns; these were the ones which caused us to bless our binder, not only then, but during the months which have passed. Following his instructions each book was carefully examined. The "know when" to bind was not a question—it was now or never. The "know what" was a time consuming task. From our point of view we considered the question of binding costs versus value of the book to our now depleted collection, and to our own curriculum. Books in the first four general classifications of the Dewey Decimal System bore the brunt of the devastating fire. The religion collection, formerly our forte, was most heavily damaged. Many of these titles have long been out of print, and the decision here was most easily reached: BIND! They could not be replaced for many times the costs of rebinding, if they could ever be located. Expensive reference books were also sent at once, unless the fire had consumed too much of the contents.

From the binder's point of view, each volume was examined for size of inner margin, and the depth of the damage on the outer

margins. When in doubt, we shipped, knowing that the binder's judgment was expert, and that he would save what he could. Search of library literature revealed little of help to us, but a certified binder is a fire victim's best friend! And with minimum specifications for Grade "A" library binding we shipped with confidence. We knew that if the volume could be rebound despite its damaged condition, it would be well bound and a sound investment of our funds. Fire insurance policies rarely cover the actual replacement cost of books, volume for volume. The price of those still in print rises as each new book catalog is issued, and the price of the out of print titles is an unknown quantity. If we had not been able to redeem so many titles through the less expensive route of rebinding, our library service would have been handicapped for a much greater length of time.

What was formerly the black hole in our library has now become the most attractive section—thanks to rebinding. We shall be forever indebted to the Joint Committee, the Minimum Specifications for Class "A" Library Binding, and the Certified Binder, who has been not only a binder and a friend, but a partner in our book conservation program.

* EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the prize winning essay submitted by Miss Kennedy which won her a trip to Washington, \$250 in cash and her picture on a National Poster.

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Preliminary Report on Conservation Survey

DUDLEY A. WEISS

"How many circulations can one expect from a book with publisher's binding as compared with the number from a book bound with library binding (*i.e.*, in accordance with the minimum specifications for Class A of the A.L.A. and L.B.I. Joint Committee.)"

For some time L.B.I. has been receiving inquiries such as these, but has had inadequate statistical data to give a satisfactory answer. The current survey was initiated for the purpose of obtaining data which might be of help to librarians in their conservation problems. To date only two types of libraries have been polled—public and university. The questionnaire was developed by L.B.I., reviewed by the Chairman of the Joint Committee and by several librarians and binders. The librarians selected for the census were from lists supplied by A.L.A. as representative. We know now that some of the questions might have been phrased a little differently and some other questions asked. However, the survey did indicate in a rather marked way certain conclusions of interest to librarians and others interested in problems of conservation.

The first class of information which we sought related to the use of the minimum specifications of the Joint Committee of A.L.A. and L.B.I. and the use of a certified binder. These specifications were first devised by A.L.A. in the early 1920's in order to establish a standard for acceptable binding for librarians for most purposes. They were intended as the minimum to meet the requirements of library usage. Subsequently, when L.B.I. was formed and the Joint Committee set up, it became its function to supervise the specifications and from time to time change them as new materials and methods were available.

In order to help librarians the certification procedure was adopted whereby binders were certified after examination of their work as capable of doing work in accordance with these specifications.

Two questions were related to this general subject: The first read as follows:

Of your books and periodicals that are rebound, what percentage is done according to the Minimum Specifications of the Joint Committee of A.L.A. and L.B.I.?

In the public library category, 80.6% of public librarians stated that books and periodicals are so rebound 100% of the time, and 11.6% between 75 and 100% of the time. Stated another way about 92.4% of all public librarians rebound according to the Minimum Specifications substantially all of their books

and periodicals. Ninety-three public librarians answered this inquiry.

Interestingly enough the same pattern prevailed in answers of colleges and universities: 79% bind 100% of their books and periodicals 100% of the time, but 91% do so for 75–100% of their books. This answer clearly indicates that for most conservation purposes, use of the minimum specifications is the accepted practice among public and college libraries.

The correlative question, use of a certified binder revealed that 91.4% of public libraries and 86.1% of college libraries use a certified binder for their binding.

The next category of information related to the circulation of books in publisher's bindings as compared with those in library binding. Books bound in publisher's binding average 26.08 circulations per volume. Those bound according to minimum specifications average 80.25 circulations per volume. An interesting characteristic of this answer lies in the use of a range instead of one figure. The range was up to 300 for rebinds, and in some cases the upper limit of the range was blank indicating no top limit.

The conclusion is that looked at from the point of circulation, the use of rebinding is a budget saving device rather than an expense of maintenance. That this is a fact not usually considered by those responsible for library budgets is apparent in the answer to questions concerning binding budgets. Yet with a ratio of 3 to 1 it would appear that every dollar spent for rebinding buys as many circulations as three dollars for publishers bindings.

The questions relating to budgets reveal a lack of uniformity which indicates that the place of binding in a library's budget has not been clearly understood. The public libraries answered that 13.49% of the library budget is spent for new books, whereas 2.96% is spent for binding, or put another way the binding budget is about 1/5th that of the new book budget. These are averages and are at best an approximation.

The striking factor about the answers to these questions lies in the range of the replies. Thus of 84 who answered, 8 had a budget for rebinding under 1%, 21 from 1–2%, 25 from 2–3%, 12 from 3–4%, 7 from 4–5% and 11 over 5%. But broken down by library size classifications there was very little correlation in each volume classification, indicating the lack of a uniform approach to the subject of conservation.

College and university libraries have apparently approached this problem somewhat more uniformly. Their range was from 1.05 to 40%, but with an average of 11.1% using only those in the middle ranges or an overall average of 10.5%. Their average for new books was 35.57% so that the binding budget is about 2/5 of the new book budget. Thus it appears to be about twice the ratio to new books that prevails in public libraries.

About 65% of the college and university

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The Library Binder

libraries answered that the binding budget has increased approximately in proportion to their overall budget, as compared with only 54% for public libraries.

Questionnaires and surveys can at best give an indication of facts. They are very seldom exact enough for more than generalizations. This report of conservation practices indicates certain conclusions which may be of help to librarians, particularly as they plan their budgets or furnish Trustees or purchasing officials information upon which to base a budget. Perhaps the most significant fact is that because of the large number of circulations obtainable from a rebound book, rebinding is today a budget saving device in that it reduces the cost per circulation. Binding budgets might well be re-examined in light of this fact.

L.B.I. plans further studies along these lines working with the Joint Committee of A.L.A. and L.B.I., and would welcome comments of librarians as to their methods of handling binding budgets.

Perhaps at no time in our history has the librarian had a more important role to play as the custodian of our culture. Conservation of a collection in terms of maximum circulation per available budget dollar is a vital matter in our effort to maintain a free society. By continuing and improving the cooperation of librarian and binder this vital function of a librarian can be strengthened and enhanced.

Welcome New Members!

The Library Binding Institute welcomes the following new members who have been certified by the Joint Committee of L.B.I. and A.L.A.: Arnold's Book Bindery, Inc.,

Reading, Pennsylvania; Weise-Winckler Bindery, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio; and as an Institutional Member, the University of California.

What's New In Binding Equipment?

One of the most difficult of bindery operations is the removal of wire staples in periodicals prior to processing. Care must be used otherwise issues will be damaged, but the operation is time consuming since scores of staples may be removed in just one volume.

Gane Brothers & Lane, Inc., one of our associate members, announces a new Staple Buster for use by library binders. Mr. S. J. Mirecki, Vice President, states with respect to this new machine that "it is absolutely safe and made to operate on a 110 or 220 volt line for AC current only." Describing its operation as very simple he added that a light touch on the foot treadle brings the shield head down over the staple, contact is immediately made and in a split second the inside legs of the staple are gone leaving only the top crown and bottom legs which are easily flicked off. Either side or saddle stitched work can be handled.



Institute on the Exceptional Reader and the Librarian

by DOROTHY BAMBER

The Library Institute, held on 18 March, 1954, by the school librarians of Baltimore city and Baltimore county and the young people's librarians of Enoch Pratt Free Library, had for its theme the exceptional child. In her opening remarks Miss Bernice Wiese explained that in educational terms "exceptional" meant retarded as well as advanced.

Mrs. Frances Clarks Sayers, the first speaker, took for her topic, "The Hills Beyond." She spoke of the joy that can be had

from books and of the importance to the child of crossing the reading bridge, which is beset by difficulties, to the green hills on the other side which are the result and reward of ever better reading. She pointed out also that there is much concrete knowledge to be gained from children's books which adult readers rarely find in their recreational reading.

During the afternoon panel discussions, librarians and teachers told about various projects which had been undertaken in the schools or in the public library branches. These projects were designed to teach children and young people to use books for purposes other than recreation or assigned outside reading. In most cases the subjects of the projects were decided upon by the participants, under the guidance of teachers or librarians. The idea behind them was to develop independent thinking through research, reading and discussion. . . .

— From "Journal of the Maryland Library Association," Spring, 1954.

Chivers a Busy Host

The Chivers Book Binding Company have been a busy host these past few weeks. They have conducted tours through the bindery for Pratt Institute Library School of Brooklyn; Department of Librarianship, New York State College for Teachers in Albany; also Student Council from Brooklyn Public Library.

John Berthel Appointed Hopkins Librarian

John Hallock Berthel has been appointed Librarian of Johns Hopkins University, succeeding Homer Halvorson who resigned last year to return to California.

Mr. Berthel, who will take up his new position on July 1, is at present Librarian of the Nicholas Murray Butler Library of Columbia University. He holds a B.A. and M.A. (in Political Science) from Columbia, and is also a graduate of its School of Library Service. A native of Washington, Pennsylvania, Mr. Berthel has been associated with the library system of Columbia since 1936 and has held his present position since 1948.

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Denver Public Library

Through the generosity of the Frederick R. Ross Trust Fund a new branch library is just being completed at West First Avenue and Lowell Boulevard. This library, costing approximately \$70,000 excluding land, will serve the rapidly growing area in the southwest part of Denver.

Starting May 6, 1954, bids will be solicited for the construction of the new Main Library building. The building will house 1,200,000 volumes and will provide public areas suitable for an expanded library program to the citizens of Denver.

The construction of two more branch libraries in the east and southeast parts of Denver is being undertaken by the Library Commission.

From New Mexico

A new branch library scheduled to open in the fall is now under construction in Albuquerque, New Mexico. A \$75,000 project, it is located at 10th and Griegos to serve the needs of the North Valley residents.

This will be the second branch library in Albuquerque. The Ernie Pyle Memorial Branch Library at 900 Girard Boulevard S.E. serves the east Heights residents. Bonds were recently voted for a third branch to be constructed in the northeast area.

The main library is located on Central Avenue in downtown Albuquerque and contains 85,000 books. A recent addition to this building is the beautiful Judge Botts Memorial Hall.

Mrs. Thompson, head librarian, was among the New Mexico librarians who attended the New Mexico-Arizona Regional Convention for librarians at Phoenix, Arizona, April 23-25.

United Nations' Documents Being Bound

The University of Denver Library has recently undertaken the cataloging and binding of its collection of United Nations documents, English edition. The Denver Bookbinding Company has accepted the task of combining nearly 1900 separate documents into 432 individually bound volumes.

This project was made possible by the Social Science Foundation, an independent organization operating within the structure of the University of Denver. These UN documents are of unusual value to this group, since their special interest is international relations.

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Colorado School of Mines



Construction on the new \$750,000 library building at the Colorado School of Mines is progressing rapidly and by all available estimates, it should be occupied early in 1955.

Furnishings and interior fixtures alone are expected to cost over \$100,000.

When completed, the new Mines library will contain approximately 40,000 square feet of floor space with an ultimate book capacity of over 200,000 volumes, according to librarian Raymond R. Dickson.

Notes from North Carolina

Three new libraries are now spreading their knowledge in North Carolina: High Point Public Library in High Point, Catawba College Library in Salisbury and N. C. State College Library in Raleigh. A bond issue has been approved for the construction of a new Public Library for Charlotte.

A few personal highlights on some of North Carolina's leading State figures: Dr. Susan Grey Akers is retiring from Library field. Her capacity was Dean of the Library Science School at the University of North Carolina. Mr. Charles E. Rush is retiring, also, in June. His capacity was Director of the Libraries at the University of North Carolina.

From Syracuse

Syracuse University, School of Library Science, has projected its interests and methods of study to include library binding procedures. Under the direction of Dean Wharton Miller, the school has attempted to make this valuable information available to future librarians.

On April 23, a member of the Mutual Library Bindery, Inc., of Syracuse, was invited to lecture the class on library binding, its preparation and its importance to librarians. It was the first talk of its kind ever presented at the University. The students were also shown L.B.I. slides illustrating binding methods.

After this informative talk, the students visited the bindery for an instructive tour and to see all phases of library binding.

New Architects' Library

The American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C., officially opened its new library on January 8, 1954. The library collection is located in the renovated stable of the historic and beautiful Octagon House. On the ground floor, roughly coinciding with the old carriage room, stable area and granary, are three pleasant public rooms. A sunny periodical reading room occupies the center of the building. The upper story, once the haymow, is now filled with bookstacks. With the improved facilities of its new quarters and continuing donations from members and friends, the Institute is confident that its collection can become the outstanding library of American architecture.

University of Maryland

The University of Maryland Library staff is actively engaged in making plans for a new library building. Henry Powell Hopkins, a Baltimore architect, is designing the building. Mr. Howard Rovelsstad, Director of Libraries of the University, attended the Library Building Plans Institute held in the new University of Wisconsin Library, Madison, Jan. 30 and 31.

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